

6 receiving, from a user and at the page server, a user request for a  
7 customized page; and thereafter  
8 executing a template program specific to the user using the real-time  
9 information stored in the storage device as input to the template program to generate the  
10 customized page, wherein the template program indicates items of interest to the user;  
11 and  
12 providing the user with the customized page, wherein the customized page  
13 includes at least one item of real-time information selected from the storage device.

1 11. The method of claim 10, further including prior to the step of  
2 receiving the user request the steps of caching the template program in a storage location  
3 local to the page server.

1 12. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of receiving  
2 user preferences for the user, wherein the user preferences indicate the items of interest to  
3 the user, and combining the user preferences with a generic template to form the template  
4 program specific to the user.

1 13. The method of claim 12, further including the step of providing the  
2 template program specific to the user to the page server.

1 14. The method of claim 12, wherein the page server performs the step  
2 of combining the user preferences with the generic template.

1 15. The method of claim 10, wherein the real-time information  
2 comprises stock quotes, sports scores and news headlines.

1 16. The method of claim 10, further comprising a step of generating a  
2 default user configuration for the user based on demographic information of the user.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the step of generating a default  
2 user configuration comprises the steps of:

3                   determining a default list of cities for a weather report based on user  
4 demographic information; and  
5                   determining one or more sports teams for sports reporting based on user  
6 demographic information.

1                   18.     The method of claim 16, wherein the steps of determining  
2 comprise the steps of:  
3                   obtaining user postal code information;  
4                   translating the postal code information to user geographic position;  
5                   comparing the user geographic position to geographic positions assigned  
6 to each city and sports team; and  
7                   determining a threshold distance from the user geographic position which  
8 is greater than or equal to a distance to a predetermined nonzero number of cities and a  
9 predetermined nonzero number of sports team geographic positions.

1                   19.     (New) Using a page server, a method of providing real-time  
2 responses to user requests from a plurality of users for customized pages, the method  
3 comprising the steps of:  
4                   obtaining user preferences for the plurality of users, wherein a user's user  
5 preferences indicate items of interest to that user;  
6                   obtaining real-time information from information sources;  
7                   storing the real-time information in a storage device;  
8                   for each of the plurality of users, combining the user preferences for a  
9 specific user and a template to form a template program specific to the user at the page  
10 server);  
11                  receiving, from a user and at the server, a user request for a customized  
12 page customized according to the user preferences;  
13                  executing the template program specific to the user using the real-time  
14 information stored in the storage device as input to the template program to generate the  
15 customized page at the page server; and

16 providing the user with the customized page, wherein the steps of  
17 executing and providing are performed in real-time response to receipt of the user request  
18 in the step of receiving and wherein the customized page includes at least one item of  
19 real-time information selected from the storage device.

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